

Message Text

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY BUDAPEST

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 134087

FOR WILGIS FROM SCHMIDT

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: OGEN

SUBJECT: OFFICIAL-INFORMAL

1. VANCE-PUJA MEETING AT SSOD. NICK, WHO WENT UP TO NEW YORK TO PARTICIPATE IN THE SECRETARY'S BILATERALS WITH EE COUNTRIES, HAS GIVEN US THE FOLLOWING ADVANCE, INFORMAL AND UNCLEARED REPORT ON TODAY'S MEETING. YOU WILL BE RECEIVING A REGULAR REPORTING CABLE IN DUE COURSE.

2. IN HIS MEETING WITH THE SECRETARY, PUJA EXPRESSED HUNGARIAN PLEASURE WITH THE WAY IN WHICH BILATERAL RELATIONS WERE DEVELOPING SINCE THE RETURN OF THE CROWN. HE SAID THAT THEY WERE READY TO EXPAND RELATIONS IN MANY AREAS AND THEY REFERRED TO SECRETARY BERGLAND'S SUCCESSFUL VISIT. THEY NOTED APPROVINGLY THE HOUSE PASSAGE OF THE TRADE AGREEMENT AND EXPRESSED CONCERN THAT PASSAGE THROUGH THE SENATE MIGHT BE MORE DIFFICULT. THE SECRETARY SAID IT
CONFIDENTIAL

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PAGE 02 STATE 134087

MIGHT BUT WE THOUGHT WE COULD GET IT THROUGH. THEY TALKED A BIT ABOUT SALT WITH THE SECRETARY BRINGING THEM UP-TO-DATE. HE ALSO TOLD THEM THAT THERE WOULD BE A PROBLEM IN SENATE RATIFICATION, NOT BECAUSE WE OFFICIALLY LINKED SALT WITH EVENTS IN AFRICA, BUT BECAUSE CONGRESSIONAL AND PUBLIC OPINION WAS MUCH AFFECTED BY SOVIET BEHAVIOR IN AFRICA AND THE PRESENCE OF CUBAN COMBAT TROOPS THERE. PUJA SAID THAT

THE HUNGARIANS SUPPORT AUTONOMY FOR ERITREA WITHIN THE BOUNDARIES OF ETHIOPIA. HE EXPRESSED HUNGARIAN VESTED INTERESTS IN IMPROVED COOPERATION BETWEEN THE SOVIET UNION AND THE US. HE SAID THAT HUNGARY WAS INTERESTED IN REVIEWING WITH THE US THOSE PROPOSALS WHICH HAD BEEN TABLED IN BELGRADE. HE THOUGHT WE SHOULD REVIEW THEM AND SEE WHICH ONES WERE WORTH PURSUING. THE SECRETARY AGREED THIS WAS A GOOD IDEA AND SAID HE LOOKED FORWARD TO RECEIVING DEPUTY FOREIGN MINISTER NAGY WHEN HE COMES TO WASHINGTON.

3. BEREZ VISIT. TOM GERTH CALLED IN TODAY FROM DETROIT, REPORTING THAT THE VISIT CONTINUES TO GO EXTREMELY WELL. THEY HAD A TOUR THIS MORNING OF THE CADILLAC PLANT AND WILL MEET TOMORROW WITH THE PRESIDENT OF THE UAW. BEREZ SEEMS VERY PLEASED.

4. HUNGARIAN TRADE AGREEMENT. WE HAVE ACTIVATED ED WILSON OF THE US CHAMBER TO DRUM UP MORE SUPPORT FROM MEMBERS OF THE US-HUNGARIAN ECONOMIC COUNCIL BY CONTACTING THEIR SENATORS. WE ALSO WILL WORK ON THE OTHER SUGGESTIONS THE AMBASSADOR CONVEYED TO LUERS THIS MORNING BY TELEPHONE. CHRISTOPHER

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